



Issue 59 – December 28, 2016

The Naz Prayer Ministry



A Personal Note from the Author's Desk

As we wrap up 2016, a few left-over thoughts have been rattling around in my head, and just so they don't dry up and die of neglect, I am taking the special privilege of imposing them on you.

What kind of year have you had? What events impacted your life the most? How have you grown? Whose friendships have played a significant part for you this year? Whose relationships have been lost? How have you changed?

And what about the year ahead? What kind of goals do you want to reach? How can you make the most of your resources? Your talents and gifts? How will your plans affect others? Who will share your ventures?

Looking back or looking forward are both beneficial. But take care. Your time of reflection and dreaming must be more than meager inward reflections.

We cannot trust what we see with our limited perspectives. The past can become emotional or spiritual quicksand when we are preoccupied with either our accomplishments or failures. And we can get mesmerized, staring wide-eyed into the future. Hope and desires are natural, but can too easily distract us with mere mirages.

The past or future is seen clearly only by the One who sees us with eyes of grace. His purposes for us and for His own Kingdom agenda are above all earthly perspectives.

So, let's start again.

How has your understanding of God changed? What ground has been gained or lost in your relationship with Him? In what specific ways has your relationship with God impacted your life? How has He intervened? How has He helped you discover your purpose as part of His Body? Who has He placed in your path with whom you are to share His grace? Where or to what is He calling you?

You are not defined by circumstances, but by the canopy of His grace and providence that is designed to mold you more and more into His likeness.

As you prepare to turn the page on the calendar and step into a new year, be filled with hope. He is carrying you over that threshold.

Your friend with the pen,
Dennis

P.S.

Through the last two years, I have shared some thoughts that hopefully have served to encourage and perhaps even strengthen your prayer life. This bi-weekly e-devotional is read regularly by people throughout our own church and in a few others around country, but it is the hope of the prayer ministry as well as myself that what we share should not be confined to us alone.

From time to time, please send an issue or two to your friends and encourage them to be added to our mailing list by sending an email to bbolin@thenaz.tv.

Thanks from your Grove City Naz Prayer Ministry.